

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) An igniter comprising a housing having first and second ends; a stop member within said housing; a fuel reservoir within said housing; a nozzle extending from said housing at said first end in fluid communication with said reservoir; an actuating assembly within said housing for controlling the supply of fuel from said reservoir to said nozzle and for igniting fuel discharged from said nozzle; and a trigger including a trigger body and a slider coupled to said trigger body, said trigger body moveable between a first position and a second position along a first path towards said second end of said housing, said trigger body operating said actuating assembly when in said second position, said slider moveable along said trigger body between a first position and a second position along a second path towards said nozzle at an angle less than 90° to ~~different from~~ said first path, said slider having a first portion arranged outside said housing and a second portion arranged inside said housing, said second portion of said slider arranged in interfering relationship with said stop member when said slider is in said first position whereby said trigger body is precluded from movement from said first position to said second position thereof, and said second portion of said slider being arranged in non-interfering relationship with said stop member when in said second position whereby said trigger body is moveable from said first position to said second position thereof for operating said actuating assembly.

2. (original) The igniter of claim 1, wherein said first path is a linear path.

3. (original) The igniter of claim 1, wherein said first path is an arcuate path.

4. (original) The igniter of claim 1, wherein said second path is at an angle greater than 30° to said first path.

5. (original) The igniter of claim 1, wherein said second path is at an angle of about 50° to said first path.

6. (original) The igniter of claim 1, further comprising a spring coupled between said slider and said trigger body, whereby said slider is biased towards said first position.

7. (original) The igniter of claim 1, wherein said trigger body is pivotably attached to said housing for rotation along said first path.

8. (original) The igniter of claim 1, further comprising a trigger guard attached to said housing forming an opening, said trigger body and said slider accessible within said opening.

9. (original) The igniter of claim 1, wherein said trigger body includes a first portion for operating said actuating assembly for controlling the supply of fuel from said reservoir and a second portion for operating said actuating assembly for igniting said fuel.

10. (original) The igniter of claim 9, wherein said first portion of said trigger body comprises a projection arranged in operative association with a gas lever operative of a gas valve for controlling the supply of fuel from said reservoir.

11. (original) The igniter of claim 9, wherein said second portion of said trigger body comprises a bridge arranged in operative association with a piezo-electric unit for igniting the fuel discharge from said nozzle.

12. (currently amended) An igniter comprising a housing; a stop member in said housing; a fuel reservoir within said

housing; a nozzle attached to said housing; a burner within said nozzle; a valve for opening and closing a path of fuel from said reservoir to said burner; a piezo-electric unit for generating a discharge voltage for lighting said fuel; an operation member which effects operation of the valve and the piezo-electric unit for lighting said igniter; said safety device comprising a trigger including a trigger body and a slider movably coupled to said trigger body, said trigger body moveable between a first position and a second position along a first path towards said fuel reservoir, said trigger body actuating said operation member when in second position, said slider moveable along said trigger body between a first position and a second position along a second path towards said nozzle at an angle less than 90° to ~~different from~~ said first path, said slider having a first portion accessibly arranged outside said housing and a second portion inaccessibly arranged inside said housing, said second portion of said slider arranged in interfering relationship with said stop member when said slider is in said first position whereby said trigger body is precluded from movement from said first position to said second position thereof, and said second portion of said slider being arranged in non-interfering relationship within said stop member when in said second position whereby said trigger body is moveable from said first position to said second position thereof for actuating said operation member.

13. (original) The igniter of claim 12, wherein said first path is a linear path.

14. (original) The igniter of claim 12, wherein said first path is an arcuate path.

15. (original) The igniter of claim 12, wherein said second path is at an angle greater than 30° to said first path.

16. (original) The igniter of claim 12, wherein said second path is at an angle of about 50° to said first path.

17. (original) The igniter of claim 12, further comprising a spring coupled between said slider and said trigger body, whereby said slider is biased towards said first position.

18. (original) The igniter of claim 12, wherein said trigger body is pivotably attached to said housing for rotation along said first path.

19. (original) The igniter of claim 12, further comprising a trigger guard attached to said housing forming an opening, said trigger body and said slider accessible within said opening.

20. (original) The igniter of claim 12, wherein said trigger body includes a first portion effecting operation of said valve when in said second position.

21. (original) The igniter of claim 12, wherein said trigger body includes a second portion effecting operation of said piezo-electric unit when in said second position.

22. (currently amended) An igniter comprising a housing; a fuel reservoir within said housing; a valve within said housing for opening and closing a path of fuel from said reservoir; a piezo-electric unit within said housing for lighting said fuel discharged from said reservoir; and a safety device comprising a trigger including a trigger body and a slider coupled to said trigger body, said trigger body moveable between a first position and a second position along a first path, said trigger body actuating said valve and said piezo-electric unit when in said second position, said slider moveable in a direction away from said fuel reservoir along said trigger body between a first position and a second position along a second path different from said first path, said second path being along an ~~oblique~~

angle less than 90° to said first path, said slider having an accessible first portion and a second portion arranged in interfering relationship with a portion of said housing when said slider is in said first position whereby said trigger body is precluded from movement from said first position to said second position thereof, and said second portion of said slider being arranged in non-interfering relationship within said portion of said housing when in said second position whereby said trigger body is moveable from said first position to said second position thereof.

23. (original) The igniter of claim 22, wherein said first path is a linear path.

24. (original) The igniter of claim 22, wherein said second path is at an angle greater than 30° to said first path.

25. (original) The igniter of claim 22, wherein said second path is at an angle of about 50° to said first path.

26. (original) The igniter of claim 22, further comprising a spring coupled between said slider and said trigger body, whereby said slider is biased towards said first position.

27. (original) The igniter of claim 22, wherein said trigger body is pivotably attached to said housing for rotation along said first path.

28. (previously presented) The igniter of claim 22, wherein said trigger body includes a first portion for operating said valve and a second portion for operating said piezo-electric unit.

29. (original) The igniter of claim 28, wherein said first portion of said trigger body comprises a projection arranged in operative association with said valve.

30. (original) The igniter of claim 28, wherein said second portion of said trigger body comprises a bridge arranged in operative association with a piezo-electric unit.

31. (original) The igniter of claim 22, wherein said trigger body comprises a pair of spaced apart walls attached at one end by an end wall having a slot therein.

32. (original) The igniter of claim 31, wherein said slider is arranged between said spaced apart walls adjacent said end wall, said slider having a rib extending outwardly through said slot.

33. (original) The igniter of claim 22, wherein said housing comprises a pair of opposing housing halves, said portion of said housing comprising a stop member extending inwardly from at least one of said housing halves.

34. (original) The igniter of claim 33, wherein the length of said stop member is longer than the travel distance of said trigger body along said first path.

35. (original) The igniter of claim 22, wherein said first path is an arcuate path.

36. (currently amended) A method of actuating an igniter comprising a housing having first and second ends; a stop member within said housing; a fuel reservoir within said housing; a nozzle extending from said first end of said housing in fluid communication with said reservoir; an actuating assembly within said housing for controlling the supply of fuel from said reservoir to said nozzle and for igniting fuel discharged from said nozzle; and a trigger including a trigger body and a slider coupled to said trigger body, said method comprising moving said slider along said trigger body between a first position and a second position towards said first end of said housing along a first path, said slider having a first portion arranged outside

said housing and a second portion arranged inside said housing; moving said trigger body between a first position and a second position towards said second end of said housing along a second path different from said first path, said trigger body operating said actuating assembly when in said second position; arranging said second portion of said slider in interfering relationship with said stop member when said slider is moved to said first position whereby said trigger body is precluded from movement from said first position to said second position thereof; and arranging said second portion of said slider in non-interfering relationship within said stop member when moved to said second position whereby said trigger body is moveable from said first position to said second position thereof for operating said actuating assembly.

37. (previously presented) The method of claim 36, wherein said second path is a linear path.

38. (previously presented) The method of claim 36, wherein said second path is an arcuate path.

39. (previously presented) The method of claim 36, wherein said first path is at an angle greater than 30° to said second path.

40. (previously presented) The method of claim 36, wherein said first path is at an angle of about 50° to said second path.

41. (previously presented) The method of claim 36, further comprising biasing said slider towards said first position by a spring coupled between said slider and said trigger body.

42. (previously presented) The method of claim 36, further comprising pivotably attaching said trigger body to said housing for rotation along said second path.

43. (previously presented) The method of claim 36, further comprising said trigger body including a first portion and a second portion, and operating said actuating assembly for controlling the supply of fuel from said reservoir using said first portion and operating said actuating assembly for igniting said fuel using said second portion.

44. (previously presented) The method of claim 43, wherein said first portion of said trigger body comprises a projection arranged in operative association with a gas lever operative of a gas valve for controlling the supply of fuel from said reservoir.

45. (previously presented) The method of claim 43, wherein said second portion of said trigger body comprises a bridge arranged in operative association with a piezo-electric unit for igniting the fuel discharge from said nozzle.

46. (currently amended) A method of operating an igniter comprising a housing having first and second ends; a stop member within said housing; a fuel reservoir within said housing adjacent said second end; a nozzle extending from said housing at said first end in fluid communication with said reservoir; an actuating assembly within said housing for controlling the supply of fuel from said reservoir to said nozzle and for igniting fuel discharged from said nozzle; a trigger including a trigger body; and a slider coupled to said trigger body, said slider having a first portion arranged outside said housing and a second portion arranged inside said housing: said method comprising moving said slider along said trigger body between a first position and a second position towards said nozzle along a first path, whereby said second portion of said slider is positioned in non-interfering relationship with said stop member; and moving said trigger body between a first position and a second position towards said fuel reservoir along a second

path different from said first path, said trigger body operating said actuating assembly when in said second position.

47. (previously presented) The method of claim 46, wherein said second path is a linear path.

48. (previously presented) The method of claim 46, wherein said second path is an arcuate path.

49. (previously presented) The method of claim 46, wherein said first path is at an angle greater than 30° to said second path.

50. (previously presented) The method of claim 46, wherein said first path is at an angle of about 50° to said second path.

51. (previously presented) The method of claim 46, further including pivotably attaching said trigger body to said housing for rotation along said second path.

52. (previously presented) The method of claim 46, further including arranging said slider in said first position whereby said second portion of said slider is positioned in interfering relationship with said stop member whereby said trigger body is precluded from movement from said first position to said second position thereof.

53. (cancelled)

54. (cancelled)

55. (cancelled)

56. (cancelled)

57. (previously presented) An igniter comprising a housing having first and second opposite ends; a stop member within said housing; a fuel reservoir within said housing adjacent said first end; a nozzle at said second end of said

housing in fluid communication with said reservoir; an actuating assembly within said housing for controlling the supply of fuel from said reservoir to said nozzle and for igniting fuel discharged from said nozzle; and a trigger including a trigger body and a slider coupled to said trigger body, said trigger body moveable between a first position and a second position along a first path, said trigger body operating said actuating assembly when in said second position, said slider moveable along said trigger body between a first position and a second position along a second path different from said first path, said first path being in a direction towards said first end of said housing and second path being in a direction towards said second end of said housing, said slider having a first portion arranged outside said housing and a second portion arranged inside said housing, said second portion of said slider arranged in interfering relationship with said stop member when said slider is in said first position whereby said trigger body is precluded from movement from said first position to said second position thereof, and said second portion of said slider being arranged in non-interfering relationship with said stop member when in said second position whereby said trigger body is moveable from said first position to said second position thereof for operating said actuating assembly.

58. (previously presented) The igniter of claim 57, wherein said second path is at an angle greater than 30 degrees to said first path.

59. (previously presented) The igniter of claim 57, wherein said second path is at an angle of about 50 degrees to said first path.

60. (previously presented) An igniter comprising a housing having first and second opposite ends; a stop member in said housing; a fuel reservoir within said housing adjacent said

first end; a nozzle attached to said housing at said second end of said housing; a burner within said nozzle; a valve for opening and closing a path of fuel from said reservoir to said burner; a piezo-electric unit for generating a discharge voltage for lighting said fuel; an operation member which effects operation of the valve and the piezo-electric unit for lighting said igniter; said safety device comprising a trigger including a trigger body and a slider movably coupled to said trigger body, said trigger body moveable between a first position and a second position along a first path, said trigger body actuating said operation member when in second position, said slider moveable along said trigger body between a first position and a second position along a second path different from said first path, said first path being in a direction towards said first end of said housing and second path being in a direction towards said second end of said housing, said slider having a first portion accessibly arranged outside said housing and a second portion inaccessibly arranged inside said housing, said second portion of said slider arranged in interfering relationship with said stop member when said slider is in said first position whereby said trigger body is precluded from movement from said first position to said second position thereof, and said second portion of said slider being arranged in non-interfering relationship with said stop member when in said second position whereby said trigger body is moveable from said first position to said second position thereof for actuating said operation member.

61. (previously presented) The igniter of claim 60, wherein said second path is at an angle greater than 30 degrees to said first path.

62. (currently amended) The igniter of claim 60, wherein said second path is at an angle of about 50 degrees to said first ~~path~~path~~path~~.

63. (currently amended) An igniter comprising a housing; a fuel reservoir within said housing; a valve within said housing for opening and closing a path of fuel from said reservoir; a piezo-electric unit within said housing for lighting said fuel discharged from said reservoir; and a safety device comprising a trigger including a trigger body and a slider coupled to said trigger body, said trigger body moveable between a first position and a second position towards said fuel reservoir along a first path, said trigger body actuating said valve and said piezo-electric unit when in said second position, said slider moveable in a direction away from said fuel reservoir along said trigger body between a first position and a second position along a second path different from said first path, said second path being along an ~~oblique~~ angle less than 90° to said first path, said slider having an accessible first portion and a second portion arranged in interfering relationship with a portion of said housing when said slider is in said first position whereby said trigger body is precluded from movement from said first position to said second position thereof, and said second portion of said slider being arranged in non-interfering relationship with said portion of said housing when in said second position whereby said trigger body is moveable from said first position to said second position thereof.

64. (previously presented) The igniter of claim 63, wherein said second path is at an angle greater than 30 degrees to said first path.

65. (previously presented) The igniter of claim 63, wherein said second path is at an angle of about 50 degrees to said first path.

66. (previously presented) A method of operating an igniter comprising a housing having a first and second opposite ends; a stop member within said housing; a fuel reservoir within said housing adjacent said first end; a nozzle at said second end of said housing in fluid communication with said reservoir; an actuating assembly within said housing for controlling the supply of fuel from said reservoir to said nozzle and for igniting fuel discharged from said nozzle; a trigger including a trigger body; and a slider coupled to said trigger body, said slider having a first portion arranged outside said housing and a second portion arranged inside said housing: said method comprising moving said slider along said trigger body between a first position and a second position along a first path, whereby said second portion of said slider is positioned in non-interfering relationship with said stop member; and moving said trigger body between a first position and a second position along a second path different from said first path, said first path being in a direction towards said first end of said housing and said second path being in a direction toward said second end of said housing, said trigger body operating said actuating assembly when in said second position.

67. (previously presented) The method of claim 63, wherein said first path is at an angle greater than 30 degrees to said second path.

68. (previously presented) The method of claim 63, wherein said first path is at an angle of about 50 degrees to said second path.

69. (cancelled)